LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6774 NOTE PREPARED: Feb 19, 2010 **BILL NUMBER:** HB 1106 **BILL AMENDED:** Feb 18, 2010

SUBJECT: Various Election Law Matters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Battles

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 2nd House

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. C. Lawson

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & Local

DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> (Amended) *Seal of Provisional Ballot Materials*- The bill requires the circuit court clerk (CCC) to seal provisional ballots and election material related to provisional ballots during the time allowed to file a verified petition or cross-petition for a recount of votes or to contest an election.

Inspection of Provisional Ballot Materials- The bill requires that election material related to provisional ballots (excluding the provisional ballots themselves) be made available for copying and inspection under the access to public records law in the same manner as other election material.

Vote Center Expiration Date- The bill extends the expiration date of the vote center pilot project to December 31, 2013.

Vote Centers- The bill requires the county election board (CEB) of a vote center county (VCC) to provide preliminary election results, broken down by precinct, not later than noon the day after election day. The bill requires a pilot VCC to establish at least one satellite office for absentee voting. The bill requires that a county's vote center plan must incorporate certain elements.

Reimbursement of Local Election Expenses by State- The bill allows a county to seek reimbursement from the Election Division (ED) for expenses incurred in complying with provisions concerning the establishment of at least one satellite office in a vote center pilot county.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010; January 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Reimbursement of Local Election Expenses by State- Any additional

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expenditures that would be made under this provision would depend on the funds available. This provision does not provide an appropriation to cover local reimbursement requests. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend on legislative and administrative actions.

Background- The ED was appropriated \$897,752 by the General Assembly for FY 2011.

Explanation of State Revenues:

<u>Explanation of Local Expenditures:</u> Seal of Provisional Ballot Materials- This provision would impact local expenditures minimally. Clerks would be able to seal provisional ballot materials within existing staff time.

Vote Center Expiration Date- Extension of the date of expiration by three years could increase the number of counties that enter vote center status. The impact of this provision is indeterminable and would depend on local action. [Marion County which does not have vote centers had two satellite offices during the 2008 general election with total expenditures of approximately \$112,000.] Tippecanoe County also has had satellite offices in recent past elections.

<u>Background Information</u>: Vote Center Costs-Tippecanoe County paid their vote center inspectors \$170 per day during the 2007 election, partially to include increased training time (four hours), versus \$160 for a conventional election. Two of the larger expenditures for Tippecanoe County included \$10,750 for electronic polling software and mailing voter postcards at \$12,465.

<u>Explanation of Local Revenues:</u> *Mailing of Notices- Penalty Provision:* If additional court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, any additional revenue is likely to be small.

Reimbursement of Local Election Expenses by State- Local revenues could increase by an indeterminable amount depending on the amount of funds available for the ED to reimburse local governments.

State Agencies Affected: Election Commission, Election Division.

Local Agencies Affected: Precinct election boards, circuit court clerks, county election boards.

<u>Information Sources:</u> Indiana State Budget Agency: *General and Rainy Day Fund Summaries, June 30, 2008*; Indiana Office of Secretary of State (Election Division); Linda Phillips, Tippecanoe County Circuit Court Clerk; Angie Nesmeyer, Marion County Election Board; 317-327-5100.

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